THE CZAR'S VERSION OF THE STORY-OX-CARTS BEATING RAILROADS.

PROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE. St. Petersburg, January 1. The account contained in "The London Times" of a massacre of political exiles which is alleged to have taken place last autumn at Yakutsk, in Eastern Siberia, has created a considerable sensation here. Under ordinary circumstances the Imperial Government disdains to take any notice of the British "Thunderer," being aware of the position which the slayer of the Chief of Police, General Mezentseff, and Nihilist leader, Katschefsky, better known by his pen name of "Stepniak." has for several years past held on the editorial staff of "The Times." In the present case, however, the latter's story of the alleged Yakutsk massacre has received such wide publicity, and has excited such a burricane of indignation throughout the Continental press, that the Czar's Government has considered it advisable to abandon its customary policy of contemptuous silence, and to vouchsafe an official explanation of the incident. It denies the massacre, but admits that two sanguinary affrays took place at Yakutsk un-

der the following circumstances: About a year ago the secret police department here received information to the effect that most of the Nibilistic pamphlets, proclamations and other revolutionary publications were not only written, but also printed, in Siberia. At first sight this appeared almost incredible, in view of the close supervision to which both prisoners and ony. However, it was deemed prudent to make inquiries into the matter, and accordingly, Captain Russanow, one of the eleverest members of the Third Section of the Imperial Chancellerie, was dispatched to Siberia for the purpose. After much careful and patient investigation, he succeeded in discovering the existence of a most elaborately equipped secret printing establishment at Yakutsk. The latter is about the last place on earth where one would have imagined the Nihilists to have established their presses. For only the most dangerous and desperate prisoners and exiles are interned at Yakutsk. Their names are not even known to local authorities. since from the moment that they leave Tomsk they are deprived for the remainder of their days of their patronymics, and are designated by numerals only. By reason of their dangerous character they are supposed to be under specially strict surveillance

Captain Russanow, however, found that by means of heavy bribes they had succeeded in corrupting the Baikal Cossacks appointed to guard them and that the latter actually helped them to forward their missives to Russia. made his preparations he caused the building in which the Nihilist presses were located to be surrounded one night by a detachment of police and soldiers, and after a sanguinary affray, during which several of the police as well as the conspirators were severely wounded by revolver bullets and sabre cuts, the occupants of the premises were seized and thrown into prison. A few weeks later they were brought up for trial, and with a moderation unusual under the circumstances, the judges contented themselves with sentencing them to deportation to various still more distant and severe penal settlements. The object of the court was to disperse the band and to scatter them to great distances from one another, so as to put at an end all communication between them. The official statement adds that when leaving the court-room, after the delivery of their sentence, they suddenly attacked their escort, and several of them having revolvers concealed about their persons began to use them against the police officers who were present Troops hurried to the rescue of the latter, and before the revolt of the prisoners could be quelled it was necessary to shoot down and to bayonet several of their number. Three of the survivors were subsequently hanged and the others were condemned to penal servitude in the mines, instead of to mere deportation.

The explanation thus vouchsafed by the Government obtains universal credence here, for the Nihilists themselves now admit and glory in the fact that these pamphlets and revolutionary appeals with which Russia is at present flooded were actually printed and issued from the most strictly supervised settlement of Siberia

General Gourko, the Governor-General of Poland, who recently returned to his post after a long leave of absence, spent at Paris, has signalized his resumption of office by the issue of a decree prohibiting the use of telephones at Warsaw, except for Government communications. Warsaw is a city with a population of some 600,000 inhabitants and provided with a most elaborate telephonic system. It is almost impossible, therefore, to realize the dismay which this arbitrary and despotic order of General Gourko has created both in social and in business. circles of the Polish capital. The grounds which he gave for this extraordinary measure were that the telephones were being used for revolu-

The death of Dr. Botkine at Mentone last week has caused much sorrow and regret here. The doctor was the most eminent and justly celebrated medical authority of the Empire, and his reputation was of an international nature. He was the favorite physician of the late Czarina, over whom he acquired the most extraordinary influence. A curious story is told of the circumstances which led to his appointment at court. The Empress, besides being afflicted with consumption, was suffering from disease of the heart. Like many other invalids, she was forever convinced that the physicians in attendance failed to understand her case-a state of things due rather to the extraordinary modesty of Her Majesty than to any ignorance on the part of the doctor. For she was so devout and so extremely pious that she could not be prevailed upon to permit them to examine her chest in the ordinary manner. Ever on the lookout for a physician who would "understand her case," she readfly granted permission to a princess, one of her fadies in waiting, to present to her a young, and at that time unknown, doctor, named Botkine, who had effected a marvellous cure in the case of the princess's daughter. Dr. Botkine came, and created a most favorable impression upon Her Majesty until the moment when he asked her to remove the bodice of her dress in order to enable him to examine her chest. She at once refused to comply with his wishes, and added that all the physicians that had attended her until then had prescribed for her without requiring "any such immodest display."

"If your Majesty declines, I must refuse either to advise or to prescribe," replied Botkine, with great dignity. "It is impossible for any one to diagnose the case without a thorough examina-

And before the astonished Empress could atter a word he began bowing himself out and backed himself almost into the arms of Alexander II, who was just entering. Having heard from the ladies in the ante-chamber that a doctor was with his wife, the Czar asked cheerily of Dr. Botkine how he found the Empress, and then perceiving the latter's disconcerted look, inquired what had happened. The young doctor replied that Her Majesty had refused to permit him or any other physician to examine her chest in the customary manner, and that under the circumstances he could not conscientiously either diagnose the case or prescribe for it. Struck by the young man's independence of character and language, as well as by his honesty and common-sense, the Cznr dis-missed him in the most kindly manner, with instructions to call at the Palace on the following day at noon. Dr. Botkine made his appearance at the appointed time, and was received by the Emperor and conducted by him to the Czarina, who had been in the meantime prevailed upon by her husband to submit to the examination. The remedies subsequently administered by the young.

patient, and from that time forth Dr. Botkine's fortune and fame were made. The Empress where allow no one cise to attend her and he rem

with her until her death at Nice. Subsequently he set up in private practice here, although still with her until her death at Nice. Subsequently he set up in private practice here, although still retaining his court appendment and the favor of the Imperial family. His usual fee for a consultation was 100 rubles. One day he was visited by Prince Demidoff, who was as mean and avaricious as he was rich. After having prescribed the necessary remedies, Dr. Botkine noticed that Prince Demidoff had extracted two five-ruble notes from his purse and that he was about to tender them in payment of the consultation.

"Thanks, no, nothing at all, my dear Prince, he exclaimed in the most kindly and even affectionate manner. "You ought to know that I never accept any fee from the poor."

An extraordinary petition has recently been An extraordinary petition has recently been presented to the Minister of Communications by the directors of the Baskuntchak Railway Company, praying that measures be adopted by the Government to prohibit the conveyance of sait by peasants on floats drawn by oxen, "as this kills the goods traffic of the line." In commenting on the above, the "Grashdanin" states that the competition between the railways and oxen is extraordy keep especially in the Sauth of the competition between the railways and oxen is extremely keen, especially in the South of Russia, and that the oxen are actually driving the railroads out of the grain transport business. Huge quantities of the corn shipped from Odessa arrive at that port from the interior, not by bullocks. In this way, utilions of bushels are annually withdrawn from the railway. The farmers allege that they are forced to act thus by reason of the utter unreliability of the railroad service and by the damage, loss and delays to which their shipments are exposed at the hands of the railway companies. The latter defend themselves by pleading lack of rolling-stock. But this, as has many another traveller, and it was not this, as has many another traveller, and it was not this, as has many another traveller, and it was not until the last brakeman called "We-nus," the brake-

to which their shipments are exposed at the hands of the railway companies. The latter defend themselves by pleading lack of rolling-stock. But the fact is that however large the number of goods-wagons might be, the mismangement is so colossal that half the rolling-stock might be mislaid and not discovered for a generation or two. This is no flight of fancy, but is a statement founded on fact. Some time ago several hundred railway cars, both for passengers and freight, were casually discovered in one of the distant suburbs of this city, after they had been entirely forgetten for more than ten years. They were standing in an immense field, which was surrounded by a high wooden wall, but without any overhead shelter, and therefore exposed to the action of rain, hail and snow. They had been built some twelve years ago by the firm of Golubeff & Co. for the Rybinsk-Bologoffsky Railway, and had been stored there pending some dispute relative to the contract, and had been entirely forgotten by the railroad company. The wooden parts of the cars had retted, and the moss and grass of ten years growing on the roof gave them the picturesque appearance of a portion of a ruine abbey. Notwithstanding all the steps that are taker

Notwithstanding all the steps that are taken by the Imperial Government to suppress every symptom of independence of character, the people, especially the merchant class, are rapidly abandoning their former attitude of abject and blind submission to Imperial behests. Thus for instance, the Russian Stefm Navigation and Commercial Company has commenced a conflict with the Government which would have appeared impossible a few years ago. The company in question has its headquarters at Odessa, and enjoys almost a monopoly of the Russian trade in the Mediterraneau. It possesses a magnificently equipped fleet of steamships, and has until recently been most subservient to the Imperial Administration. The general manager, Mr. Van der Fleyt, even went so far about ten years ago as to devote one of the best steamships of the company to the conveyance of cream and butter and ice from the Crimes, weekly, for the use of the and one of which others will hasten

WHERE ARE YOUR CANCELLED STAMPS!

IF ANY ONE HAS THREE OR FOUR MILLIONS OF THEM LYING AROUND HE CAN FIND A

MARKET FOR THEM. Has any one 1,000,000 stamps or 500,000 or 100, 0001 The man who has long been wanted by people thousand. This cheerful news is given for the time to time. But the man who buys them does not expect to see them redeemed, nor is he trying to relieve the sufferings of those who have carefully hoarded the "little green uns," the three-cent stamp, and the five-cent stamp, and the stamp of all kinds. But the seekers of wealth by stamp-selling are not likely to acquire great fortunes in this way. If they have only collected a few thousand, or even too,000 guerned the Judge. have only collected a few thomsand, or even 100,000 they would better become discouraged and give it up, for the wholesale market price of cancelled postage stamps (unless for some particular reason they age to be a some particular reason they age to be a some particular reason they are the follows. are extrinsically more valuable) is \$100 a million. And sheep b b bites me and I blives it that is \$10 a hundred thousand.

"Give one instance of a reasonable demand for

a cancelled stamp on a picture which is given away with every hox of eigarettes. The company uses

" Another," "A certain publication gives a stamp book for so many coupons, the coupons going with the papers." What kinds of stamps do you buy?" " All kinds."

"But who wants common green two-cent stamps? They are not rare." "Well, they are less common in Western Bulgaria

than in New-York City. I buy stamps in all parts of Europe and bring them to America, and I ship American stamps to all parts of Europe."
"How many stamps do you buy a year?"
"I bought over 50,000,000 last year. For fifteen

years I have averaged about 20,000,000 a year." "What becomes of them: "
"Think of all the shops where stamps are sold. A great many people make collections, and the stamps

are all gathered for them in this way." What do you pay for stamps?" "One hundred dollars for a million of any kind, I don't care what they are, I will take them. But I which made a specialty of railroad news put a new railroad editor on duty. This railroad editor had never beard of Captain Meade and did not know that

eoo,ooo could you fill it?"

"Would you buy as many?"

"You'd you hardle them?"
"Those packing cases there are full of them. You see the stamps are assorted and put in envelopes and boxed for shipment."
"It would not pay, would it, to count 1,000,000 the case that stamps; how do you manage that?"
"We can estimate them almost precisely by weight," "So cancelled stamps really have a market value?"
"If they did not, as I said before, I should not buy them. Bring round a million or two, in loves or bales, and see for yourself. There are lew things in these days that are allowed to go to waste." And he picked up a package of foreign stamps and gave them to the reposter as a nest egg.

A BELL-BOY'S KEEN EAR.

GOSSIP AT THE CAPITAL.

MAJOR MARTIN, OF TEXAS, AS A TRAVELLER

CAPTAIN BOUTELLE TELLS A STORY-SENATOR VANCE LOSES HIS HAT-NAVAL OFFICER AND RAILROAD MAN - FEATURES OF

LIFE IN KENTUCKY - COLONEL

INGERSOLL AND THE AD-MINISTRATION.

Washington Inn 18 - Major Martin, the Membe from Palestine, Tex., has always been on the side of railroad corporations, but since his return this year his friends tell me he is especially "down upon th He has his reason and the public will be on his side

It seems that on his last trip he missed connection at st. Louis, a city which comes in the route from Texas to Washington. After waiting half a day, he

until the lusty brakeman called "We-nus," the brakeman's pronunciation for Venice, that the Texas bethought him of his ticket. The conductor had not taken it, and when he came through again the tran

"Helio, old fellow, you're on the wrong train," the comment that greeted the surprised Texan.

Now, the modern Athenian or "Bill Martin" as he s familiarly called, is stolcal and never complainbag and alighted wasting not a moment in way of knowing that trains sometime pulled into S He plodded wearily along the railroad track, standing aside to let a bustling passenger or laden freight train The path is ple ant enough for the road ouns through the lowls" s of the Misstssippi, but the Texan does not recal the trip with any pleasure. His session's clothin was in the carpet bag and it

He has never brought a trunk to the Capital, but since this experience he has confided in a friend

Just before entering St. Louis, the road bed follows the course of the river and the scenery is of ex-ceeding heauty, but Major Martin never refers to it in glowing terms. He reached the famous tunnel which connects Fast St. Louis with the main spanning the river where it is three quarters of a mile turdily to the railroad. He had left by that route

" see that, youngster! If you'll put me on the train nly a week ago that he explained to his friends why

were chaffing him the other day upon the fact that the sheries question was one of those perennial and in-

haled him up before Mudge! Bates, a local magistrate in the good old town of Eastport. Several wit-nesses had testified in the case, and there could not be even a linzering doubt of the prisoner's guilt.

that is \$210 a hundred thou and.

"Why do I have postage stamps?" said G. B.

Calman, of No. 200 Pearl M., to a Tribune reporter.

"Why, to sell them, of course."

Senator Vance, of North Carolina, lost in many other day. He came out of the Senate cloak room have the day, to sell them, of course."

the corridors asking every one he met if he had seen the corridors asking about anywhere. He was asking the corridors asking about anywhere.

know, but I was 'just asking,' like the man who came into my office once when I was Governor of North Carolina. He was a trampich-looking man, and his clothing was worn and seedy. He looked carefully around the room and then said:

"Governor, you ain't seen nothing of a pair of boots around here, have you! I left 'em in that corner last night and they ain't here this morning." "I answered that I had not seen the boots,
"I knew some d-d thief had stolen them," said
the unknown. "Of course I knowed it wasn't you,
but I just thought I'd ask."

Few of those who knew Captain Meade, the commandant of the Navy here, know that he once aspired to be a railroad manager and that he escaped that fate went to St. Louis and took, on trial, the piace of assistant to Captain R. S. Hays, the first vice-president of the Missouri Pacific Railway and personal representative of Mr. Gould in St. Louis. We was absent from the city when one of the local largers lying around for years. Frequently they are very Captain Hays had as assistant. He had never met (Th

Suppose you were to get an order to-day for 50, ooo could you fill it?"

Captain Hays, and for the first days of his service he was under the impression that Captain Hays was out of town. The third day he inquired at the office of the first vice-president if Captain Havs was in and received an affirmative answer. The boy who replied to the question volunteered to take the railroad editor' eard in to Captain Hays. Presently he returned with the announcement that "the Captain will see you. The railroad editor, under his escort, was taken into the next room, where a fine looking, gray-haired man was scated at a dock. The gray haired man arose, "Captain Hays!" said the railroad editor, inquir-

> "I am very glad to meet you, Mr. ---," said the - You have been absent from the city," said the

railroad editor. "I have just returned from the East," was the Captain's reply.

A BELL-BOY'S KEEN EAR.

From The Rochester Herald.

"There is a young man who has a remarkable gift." The speaker was a hotel clerk, and his observation was addressed to a reporter last evening. As he spoke he notided his head in the direction of a bell-boy who had just come up to answer a call on the indicator. The reporter had noticed that the young man called out the number of the room as soon as the bell rang, and when he was away over on the opposite side of the rotunda, at such a distance from the indicator that he could not possibly has a distance from the indicator that he could not possibly has a distance from the indicator that he could not possibly has a distance from the indicator had been been soon as the bell-boy how the food that the call came from without seeing the number exposed. It was then that the clerk made the remark attributed to him. "That boy," he continued, "knows the call from every room in this house simply by the sound of the bell. When you think that there are more than 200 bells in the hotel, in as many different rooms, all sounding alike to the ordinary listener, his keenness of hearing seems wonderful. But it is a fact, and I do not know that he ever made a mistake in calling out the number of a room when he had heard its bell ring."

Captain's reply.

Then the Captain began to unfold his views of the railroad situation. East and West. He grew elequent as he spoke of the Missouri Parlied situation. East and West. He grew elequent as he spoke of the Missouri Parlied situation. East and West. He grew elequent as he spoke of the Missouri Parlied situation. East and West. He grew elequent as he spoke of the Missouri Parlied situation. East and West. He graw elequent as he spoke of the Missouri Parlied satisfactor and magnificent prospects. He discussed the stock market and magnificent proposite side of the product of the magnificent prospects. He discussed the stock our magnificent proposite side of the product of the magnificent proposite side of the product of the magnificent pro of having obtained a "beat" of magnificent proportions. | horse to a blacksmith-

The first man he met as he stepped from the car was the railroad editor of an afternoon paper.

"Do you know whom you interviewed yesterday !" he was asked.

"Why, Captain Hays, of course," was the confi-It wasn't Captain Hays at all," said the other.

"It was his assistant, Captain Meade." A cold spray played down the spine of the railroad editor of the first part. He went directly to the

advisability of railroad officers, even assistant rail-road officers, keeping their mouths shut, the usual correction and apology were published the next morning and a few days later Captain Meade had come to the conclusion that he was not cut out for railroad diplomacy and had resolved to return to the navy.

A newly elected Western Senator and a New-Yorker who is spending the winter in Washington were making the supreme Court calls on Monday. They had been in several houses and toward the end of the afternoon the Senator began to mourn the absence of the punch bowl, which has almost entirely dis appeared from Washington drawing-rooms.

At last they came to a house where they saw an amber liquid. "Ah-h, punch," said the Senator proceeding to the

dining-room

We will sample it." The debutante who sat behind the crystal bowl dipped the liquid into the two glasses, and as she handed it to them, put a small spoon in each glass. The Senator looked doubtfully.

"Must we cat it with spoons," he whispered to his companion as he took a sip. "That is the queerest punch ever brewed," was his verdict, as he put down the glass.

" It is not punch," said the debutante with a smile

"H's cafe frappe."

"Whatever it is, it's too mild for me," said the Senator, beating a retreat.

Congressman Flower delights to tell an and At a recent dinner party given by him he related one about Abraham Lincoln which was new, at least to the company assembled. To those who knew Lincoln minds me," it will appeal most strongly. A man called at the Executive Mansion one afternoon to tell | the night before with the "Dook." the President some details of a battle recently fought He was admitted and President Lincoln listened to him at first easerly and then with patience. It took him a long time to complete his story. When he was

Young man, when people tell me a story it usually reminds me of something; but, do you know, wha you have just told me doesn't remind me of anything

the Geological Survey, was sent to eastern Kentucky the dangers of the Hatfield-McCoy section, but he started off fearlessly. Last week he returned and among the things he drew from his vallee was a good sized frame bearing in the centre of the mat a torn piece of yellow wrapping paper. On it, in red ink,

"No furner ner enny persun withouten per tikler

eross hones and three bloody fingers. Mr. Goodleve says he received a number of persona

armings, before he found the slip of paper. He came across it pinned to a tree in the ver-

he answered, in his deliberate, emphath way, "I do not believe I have seen Mr. Harrison

woman at the revival meeting. She sat there, prire and demure, with her little handkerchief folded up a rather strong expression to use, but I can

The Secretary of the Navy received two pairs of fine canvashack ducks some time ago. They were carefully packed in a bix, which also contained the advertising eard of a New York firm. The Secretary mewhat surprised at the Brile attention from up in line style on his dinner table and he soon forget all about them. Early this week he met an vesterday, "but among them all I have seen no alliforget all about them. Early this week he met an old brooklyn friend of his and was somewhat surprised to find that his hearty greeting was received somewhat soldly." He was mentally commenting on the might of before the coldly. The was mentally commenting on the viel-situates of friendship when the Erooklyn from footlights to ventilators by an audience that somewhat colding He was mentally commenting on the virissitudes of friendship when the Brooklyn

"Flavor, what flavor:" ejaculated the Secretary.
The canvashasks-didn't you get them? I had two pair packed by ____ in New York and sent them on to you a month ago. I selected them myself." | had for something in the dramatic line. | Southerners are very emotional, you know Explanations followed, and he was the maddest man in Washington when he learned that the New-York firm had put in their eard instead of his.

THREE TYPES OF DRAMA. From The Detroit Tribune.

from The Detroit Tribune.

The border drama:

"I'm only a rough fellow, Mary. I don't wear fine lothes and use fine words, but ever since your father rought you here to the mountains I've loved you, lary. I've none of the airs of that city chap, Mary, it if a faithful heart and a pair of ready hands."

"Take me, lill. I've loved you all my life."
Throws herself in his arms.)

The society drama:

"I've come to say good-bye, Mabel. I'm going
far away. I wilt trouble you no more. I am going
to leave friends, home, everything for your sale. I
trust you will be happy without me, dearest—1—good-

"Agines:
They rush to each other.
"Then you love me, after all!"
Why, of course, you sally boy. Couldn't you see was only trying to make you jealous?"

French drama:

Without you life would be a blank. I could not live—I would lift my cif. You are my all. You presence has enthralled me. Say but the word and I will throw myself at your feet. Say that blissful word which will make you mine.

But my husband!

"Oh, he doesn't count."

From The Atlantic Monthly. No sketch of Earns would be complete without

Not only, "said Mr. spian, fond of each other, but they showed their affection, plainly as did ever a man for a woman. We never took any pains to teach the dog anything about the horse. Everything he knew came to him by his own pattence. From the time I took him to the stable a pup until I sold Rarus, they were never separated an hour.

"We once left the dog in a stall while we took the horse to a blacksmith shop, and when we came back effectually.

we found he had made havoe with everything there was in there, trying to get out, while the horse, during the entire journey, was uneasy, restless, and in general acted as hadly as the dog did. Dave remarked that he thought we had better keep the horse and dog together after that. When Rarus went to the track for exercise, or to trot a race, the dog would follow Dave around and sit by the gate, at his side, watching Rarus with as much interest as Dave did! When the horse returned to the stable after a heat and was unchecked, the dog would walk up and climb up on his forward legs and kiss him, the horse always bending his head down to receive the caress.

road editor of the first part. He went directly to the office of the Missouri Pacific Railway and asked for Captain Hays. A gray-haired man came out of the inner office. He was not the gray-haired man who had been interviewed the day before. He took the matter very quietly.

"Captain Meade says you addressed him by his name," said he when a formal explanation had been itendered.

"That was impossible," was the railread editor's reply, "for until this morning I did not know of the existence of such a person as Captain Meade."

Captain Hays made some quiet comment on the advisability of railroad officers, even assistant railroad officers, keeping their mouths shut, the usual road officers, keeping their mouths shut, the usual when the would stand, his head high in the alvisability of railroad officers, even assistant railroad officers, keeping their mouths shut, the usual when the would stand, his head high in the alvisability of railroad officers, even assistant railwoofficers of the gray bear work.

When Rays was sold from the work was over. Im and the horse would offen froile like two boys. If the horse law was oon learned to ride him, and whenever I led horse would offen froile like two boys. If the horse awas on learned to ride him, and when

copie."

en Rarus was sold to Mr. Bonner, Splan sent v with the horse, rightly judging that it would usel to separate them. But in Mr. Bonner's there was a bull terrier in charge, and one day for some real or fancied affront the small dog attacked the larger one, the latter took Jimmy by the neck and was fast killing him, but Rarus heard his outcries, and perceiving that his little friend was in danger and distress, pulled back on the halter till t broke, rushed out of his stall and would have made short work of the bull terrier had he not been retrained by the grooms.

HOW THE DUKE ENJOYED A JOKE.

THE OLD SAILOR'S CONSTERNATION WAS NEED. LESS, BUT IT LEFT HIM IN A BROWN

STUDY.

A tombstone at the head of a grave overlooking the arbor of Canton bears the inscription, "Sacred the memory of P. J. Miller, Boatswain, U. S. Navy. nknown outside the Navy, "P. J." has become as nuch a part of the legend and tradition of the serice as have the deeds of Hull. Perry and Decatur, All sailors are said to be more or less given to springng varus, but of all the romancers that the sea has produced, bright and clear above them all shines "P. J." As "P. J." he always spoke of himself, and as "P. J." he was always spoken of.

One of the best stories told by him relates to the time when the ship to which he was attached lay n the harbor of Gibraltar, in company with the critish Mediterranean Squadron, in which the Duke of Edinburgh was captain of the Galatea. morning "P. J." came aboard and solemnly related to the warrant officers' mess that he had been on a spree

"I met him as I went in to get a nip, de ye see, and savs the Dook:

"-Isn't this "I'. Ji"' "
"The same,' says I, and then he introduced himif and asked what I'd take. Well, after a few drinks and a little talk, in which he told me he had often heard of me, the Dook took out his pocketbook

"Excuse me, Dook,' says I, looking dignified, and lapping down the money. 'When "P. J." drinks with

yalty he allers pays." "Put it there, P. J.' says the Dook, 'and whenever

"P. J." wound up his story by saying that the Duke was coming off to call on him. "P. J.'s" atest story soon spread through the ship and every dy from the commanding officer to the Jack o' th it was laughing at it. The afternoon had about half worn away when word was passed that the aptain of the Galatea was approaching the side at for to pipe the royal visitor over the side.

The Duke was piped over the side in right royal the captain and officers greeting him with unerred heads. He was conducted to the cal in enm fairly caught, and many were the gibes and rs heaped upon him. After about a quarter of hour of mental depression, however, he regained spirits and remarked nonchalantly; "Oh, that's a scely were the words out of his mouth when a The captain of the Galatea would like to see

Mr. Miller in the cabin."

Astonishment overspread the faces of P. J.'s audito happen to him? Had his yarn reached the nike, and was he about to suffer unknown and a commanding officer ! With fear and trembling

___ RIP VAN WINKLE AND THE FARMER.

JOSEPH JEFFERSON'S CONQUEST OF ATLANTA. "In his autobiography Joseph Jefferson recalls many indicrous incidents of his stage experience," said came from all parts of the State. There wasn't quatting room in the aisles nor standing room in the lobby. I never saw an audience so affentive. They drank in the play through their eyes and cars as if

Southerners are very emotional, you know, and there was much weaping in the house during the scene where Rip and his wife have their little set-to which ends his being driven out of the back door into the od the thunder thundered and the confrymen in the the dear there was a clinding flash, followed by a deafening roll and rumble, and he turned back for an instant in a fast silent appeal to his wife. That look was too much for a lank farmer in the balcony. Springing up in his signt, high above the sea of heads around him, he shouled with all his voice:

springing in the shouled with all his voice;

"Don't to, ltip don't to?"

"Jefferson must have heard that yell and the biblishing that followed it, for he seemed to pause span before he plunged into the howling darkness. The farmer took on terribly, attracting the attention and sympathy of the whole house. He refused to be conforted and finally not up and left the place, crying like a baby. I learned afterward who the booky was, He had ridden horseback through the rain for ninety miles to see that performance."

AN UNEXPECTED REBUKE. From The Chicago Tribone.

From The Chicago Tribone.

He was a deaf mute who had learned to talk by imitation. His wife could both hear and talk, but at the theatre they preferred to converse by means of the sign manual. The couple that sat behind them, thinking that neither of them could hear, took occasion to comment freely and speculate on their relations to each other ad lib., greatly to the discomfort of the lady, who, of course, heart everything. She communicated every word to her husband until he could stand it no longer. Then, tarning to the gentleman, he middly asked: "Will you allow me to see your programme?" The chagrin and discomfort of the bair were apparent. Hastily handing over his programme, the two hustled out of the theatre just as the curtain went up on the second act.

A lethargie, dermant condition of the liver is hardly to

be overcome with drastic catharties and nauseous cholasystematically. Its laxative effect is never painful and drenching, its tendency being rather to perpetuate regularity than to produce a copious action. Malaria, nervousness, deblifty, kidney troubles and neuralgia it subdues

SWITZERLAND IN DANGER.

HER INDEPENDENT EXISTENCE THREAT. ENED BY POWERFUL NEIGHBORS.

FROM AN OCCASIONAL CORRESPONDENT OF THE TRIBUNE.

Geneva, January 2. The Federal Government is about to establish a government monopoly on tobacco. This will constitute a serious usurpation of the individual rights and privileges of the citizens by the executive power, and is deemed inconsistent with the principles of a truly republican constitution. It will injure much private enterprise throughout the country, and while foreigners will hail with delight the restriction in the production of the evil-smelling Swiss cigars, the natives themselves, who enjoy the peculiar flavor, will be subjected to much discomfort. The establishment of the monopoly is, however, the only course open to the Government. It is forced to resort to this unpopular measure in order to meet the expenses incurred by the War Department. Some forty or fifty millions of france have already been spent on the acquisition of new rifles for the army; large sums have been devoted to the purchase of explosives, and a vast amount is being expended in the construction of fortifications to defend the St. Gothard tunnels and passes. Until recently the Swiss disdained to take any steps for the defence of their country, whose independence they declared to be sufficiently protected by their neutrality. The latter, they pointed out, had been guaranteed by the Great Powers of Europe at the Congress of Vienna in 1850, and was therefore absolutely

Last year, however, during the course of the

conflict between the little republic and Prince

Bismarck on the subject of Police Inspector

Wohlgemuth, the fact was brought to light that

one of the great signatory Powers of the Treaty

of 1815 had entirely withdrawn from the guar-

antee of Switzerland's neutrality, and that sev-

eral of the other nations had qualified it in such a way as to render it valueless. In 1848 the Russian Government officially notified the various Courts of Europe that its share in the guarantee of the neutrality of Switzerland must be regarded as null and void as long as the latter continued to offer an asylum to revolutionists and political refugees who disturbed the tranquillity of the other Powers of Europe. Prussia, Austria and France followed suit, and in a diplomatic note dated January 18, 1848, announced that the maintenance of their guarantee of the integrity of the independence of Switzerland would depend entirely on the manner in which the Helvetian Government fulfilled its moral obligations toward its neighbors. By these "moral obligations" was meant that it should refuse to allow its territory to become the headquarters and asylum of revolutionary plotters against the various monarchies of Europe. Even Great Britain joined in thus qualifying her participation in the guarantee. All this was ignored by the vast majority of the present generation here, and when during the recent trouble with Prince Bismarck the true nature of the much-vaunted European guarantee became known, something in the nature of a panic ensued throughout the country. This was ntensified by the Chancellor's threat to request the Powers to consider the question of the continuance of Swiss neutrality-by no mean an idle menace, since shortly afterward Germany, Austria and Italy adopted an identical policy to compel the little republic to close its doors to political refugees. The scare led to all kinds of military measures being put into force. Public subscriptions were started for the purchase of guns and ammunition, and at length, gathering courage from their own military arder, the worthy countrymen of William Tell felt themselves in a condition to resist all invaders. This confidence is, however, by no means shared by the foreigners resident here. For the Swiss army is composed of a militia, numbering some 220,000, which requires a fortnight for its mobilization, whereas either Germany, France or Italy could each pour into Switzerland within the space of days armies of several tors, and consternation rested upon his. What was dred thousand men. There is absolutely nothing to prevent the invasion. For the Swiss have relied so much on the European guarantee of their neutrality that they have utterly neglected to fortily the various passes and reads

P. J. approached the cabin. As he entered the caption of the Galadea rashed up and grasping P. J.'s brawns right hard in both of his, exclaimed:

— Put if there, P. J.: Put if there?

For a moment P. J. was specifiles and the officers in the cabin nearly fell off of their chairs with lamphter, but quietaly right to the occasion, P. J. replied selements: The forts now being erected on the St Gothard are useless for purposes of resisting invasion. The patriotic ardor with which the Swiss make preparations to resist the invasion of foreign armies did not extend to a defence against the "Fruit there, Book."

"Now, last night I drank with you," continued the Duke, and to day you must drink with me," and pouring out two drinks of whiskey from the captain's decanter, the langhing sailor prince touched glasses with the solemn I. J.

P. J. left the cabin trying to settle in his own mind whether the yarn he had spun was an invention or a fact. In this state he returned to his messuates, to whose inquiries as to what took place in the cabin he would only return langhingly; "Didn't it ly yo, be'd send for me?" It seems that in the cabin he would only return langhingly; "Didn't it ly yo, be'd send for me?" It seems that in the cabin he would only return langhingly; "Didn't it ly yo, be'd send for me?" It seems that in the cabin some one had told the Duke the story with which P. J. had regaled the slop, It so struck His Highness's famey that he insisted on seeing the author at once, and to this day "When P. J. drinks with Boyalty he always pars," and "Put it there, P. J.," are phrases in the vocabulary of England's sailor prince. way system of Switzerland was sold by its native proprietors to a syndicate of Berlin bankers. The latter own already all the main lines in the eastern portion of the republic and even the construction of the St. Gothard Tunnell has been defrayed in part by German Government subsides and in part by private German capital. Moreover, the German financiers have undertaken to provide thirty of the forty-five millions of frames required for the construction of the new Simplen tunnel, Italy producing the balance of the sum for this enterprise on Swiss territory. Now Prince Bismarck is exceedingly careful of the interests of German capital, a fact which

the sum for this enterprise on Swiss territory. Now Prince Bismarck is exceedingly careful of the interests of German capital, a fact which was abundantly proved by the solicitade with which a year ago he caused the German financiers to get rid of their Russian securities. It therefore stands to reason that he would neither furnish Government subventions for the construction of Swiss Alpine tunnels not yet encourage Berlin bankers to purchase Swiss railways, unless he counted on following up the money thus spent, and recovering passession thereof with territorial interest. One of his favorite newspapers, the "Hamburger Nachrichten," even went so far some few months ago as to publish a scheme of partition of Switzerland among the nations by whom it is surrounded. Of course Germany came in for the lion's share, which, curiously enough, included the territory over which stretched the railroad lines owned by German capitalists.

Switzerland has already, on two previous occasions, lost her independence by selling the right to traverse her ferritory to foreign armies. These found the hand so pleasant that they determined to stay there. She has now once more bartered away her liberty of action, and probably her political existence for Germas, gold, and her end is regarded by the various statesmen in Europe as being near at hand. The desire of each of the neighboring Powers to obtain the largest share in the partition of her soil has constituted the only safeguard of her existence antil now, and were France either to come to an understanding with the Triple Alliance, or to be conquered thereby, little Switzerland would

until now, and were France either to come to an understanding with the Triple Alliance, or to be conquered thereby, little Switzerland would be conquered thereby, little Switzerland would probably furnish a meal for Germany, Austria and Italy.

A CATECHISM OF THE STATES.

From The Pattsburg Chronicle.

Question-Which is the best State for fresh pork!

Answer-New ham, sure.

-May inn. -In which should surgeons dwell!

Connect a cut.

Which furnishes the best writers?

Pencil vania.

In wish should laundrymen prosper?

Washing done. In which do impudent people dwell!

Can sass.

Which is the best for deer hunting!

Collar a doe.

Which is the best to steal a walking stick in ?

"Chare took, ch?"

"Unich is the best for locksmiths?

"Which is the best for locksmiths?

"New brass key.

In which would you look for a morning attire)

"Day cont, ch!

"In which is one likely to fail in getting a drink!

Miss a sip. Florid A.

To which does the bustle make one sick?

which is one likely to lose his farming

ments: -I'd a hoe. -In which can one acquire an estate by marrisge!
A.-Mary land.
O. Which would be the most useful in the event

A. Mary land.
Q. Which would be the most useful in the event
of another deluge!
A. New (N) ark, of course.
Q.—In which is one letter of the alphabet tailer
than the others!

A=O higher, Q=In which are bodies of land surrounded by A=Rhode Island.

A.—Ten I see.
Q.—Which would a women rather have if she an't get a new sealskin sacque?
A.—New-Jersey.
Q.—Which does the farmer's wife mention when he asks you to partake of apple sauce?
A.—Take sass.

Which is called to your mind by beholding